

MORNING PAPERS : WEDNESDAY, 1ST FEBRUARY, 1950.
EVENING PAPERS : WEDNESDAY, 1ST FEBRUARY, 1950.
BROADCASTING STATIONS : MIDNIGHT 31ST JANUARY, 1950.

EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS : AUSTRALIA, NOVEMBER, 1949.

Monthly records of employment relate to all wage and salary earners, except those in rural industry and private domestic service, that is about 90 per cent. of all wage and salary earners.

During the month of November, 1949, the total number of such persons in employment increased by more than 18,000 to the record total of 2,487,000. This compares with a total of 1,730,000 employees in work in July, 1939.

In the twelve months ended November, 1949, the number of employees in work in Australia increased by 79,000 or at the high rate of rather more than 3 per cent. for the year.

Comparative figures by sexes are :-

AUSTRALIA : EMPLOYEES AT WORK.
(Excluding rural industry and private domestic service.)

<u>November</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
1947	1,688,000	637,000	2,325,000
1948	1,749,000	659,000	2,408,000
1949	1,811,000	676,000	2,487,000

The annual increase in this portion of the wage earner work force has been in the vicinity of 80,000 of whom three fourths are males.

The increase of 18,500 during November, 1949 comprised 13,000 males and 5,500 females.

Those in private employment rose by 14,500 to 1,848,400 while employees of governmental authorities (including employees on works and services such as railways, tramways, post office, education, police and public works) increased by 4,000 to 639,400. Of the latter 3,600 were New Australians employed by Commonwealth service departments pending absorption in private employment.

INCREASE IN ALL STATES.

The numbers of male employees and of total employees increased in all States during November while female employees increased in all States other than Queensland where the number was unchanged. The total number of employed wage and salary earners in industries covered in New South Wales exceeded 1,000,000 for the first time on record with 725,200 males and 275,800 females

CHANGES IN INDUSTRIAL GROUPS.

During November total employees in work rose in all industrial groups with the exception of the professional group where the employment level was unaltered. The largest increase was in Commerce which accounted for 7,400 or 40 per cent. of the total increase, 5,100 being in retail trade. This was partly seasonal.

RISE IN FACTORY EMPLOYMENT.

The numbers of wage and salary earners at work in factories rose during November by 4,918 persons (2,863 males and 2,055 females). Except for textile and knitted goods factories, in which the employment level was virtually unchanged the rise was shared by all factory classes. The largest numerical increase occurred in the manufacture of metals, machines, vehicles, etc. where employment rose by 2,660 to 322,802.

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CANBERRA. A.C.T.

31ST JANUARY, 1950.